



UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW • Suite 1150 • Washington, DC 20425 www.usccr.gov

Dear Friends of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights:

Please join us on **Friday, August 17**, in Washington, DC, for a presentation:

Remembering Filipina/o American History & Its Intersection with Civil Rights

Dawn Bohulano Mabalon, Ph.D.

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San Francisco State University

The first Filipinas/os arrived in what is now the continental United States in 1587 and settled in the Louisiana Bayou in the 18th century. Mass migration to the U.S. began soon after the Philippines became a U.S. colony following a brutal Philippine-American War. While other Asian immigrants were excluded, more than 100,000 Filipinas/os streamed into the country before World War II as U.S. nationals. Early immigrants created vibrant communities and became an integral part of the agricultural economy, but also faced significant institutional racism, violence, and discrimination. Throughout the 20th century, Filipina/o Americans fought passionately for civil rights and labor justice. Often erased from history books, Filipino farmworkers played a critical role in the Delano grape strike in California. Dr. Dawn Mabalon, author of *Little Manila Is in the Heart: The Making of the Filipina/o American Community in Stockton, California*, and the forthcoming children's book *Journey for Justice: The Life of Larry Itliong*, will discuss this community's often untold stories and their intersection with civil rights.

The presentation will occur at 12:00 pm EDT at the Commission's headquarters, immediately following our Commissioners' monthly public meeting.

The Commission is located in the National Place Building, 1331 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 1150, Washington, DC 20425. (The building entrance is on F St. NW.) If attending in person, we ask that you RSVP by email to publicaffairs@usccr.gov. The session will also [live-stream](#). Please stay tuned to [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) for public call-in line information.

We look forward to you joining us on August 17.

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The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, established by the Civil Rights Act of 1957, is the only independent, bipartisan agency charged with advising the President and Congress on civil rights and reporting annually on federal civil rights enforcement. Our 51 state Advisory Committees offer a broad perspective on civil rights concerns at state and local levels. The Commission: in our 7th decade, a continuing legacy of influence in civil rights. For more information about the Commission, please visit <http://www.usccr.gov> and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).